

3022911

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

COUNTRY USSR (Baltic)

REPORT NO.

25X1A

SUBJECT Soviet Naval Activities in the Gulf of Finland

DATE DISTR.

15 March 1954

NO. OF PAGES

2

25X1A DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE:

25X1X

- 25X1A 1. [] two large Soviet warships, probably cruisers, were sighted off Hiiumaa (N 58-55, E 22-13). The ships, which were about 150 meters long, had two stacks and two twin turrets, one on the rather long fore-deck, and the other on the fantail. They were about one-half nautical mile apart and were proceeding at a speed of approximately 20 knots on a northeasterly course parallel to informant's ship. The two Soviet ships turned off in an easterly direction when Hiiumaa was abeam.
- 25X1A 2. [] two identical Soviet cruisers with two stacks and four triple turrets mounted in pairs, forward and aft, were sighted between Osmussaar (N 59-18, E 23-22) and Paidiski. The first cruiser, which was steering a west-southwesterly course, disappeared from sight at 1115 hours. The second cruiser, which belched thick smoke from her after stack, proceeded on an east-southeasterly course at a speed of about nine or ten knots, but reversed course at 1130 hours. At 1140 hours, the cruiser altered course to north-northwest and, at 1150 hours, turned southeast, at the same time increasing its speed to 16 knots. At noon, when informant's ship was in position N 59-43, E 23-52, the cruiser altered its course to southwest, turning away at high speed.
- 25X1A 3. [] when Porkkala bore 43° true and Naissaar (N 59-35, E 24-30) 120° true, a target and a destroyer were sighted at 175° true. The destroyer had two stacks and two tripod masts, including a smaller one just forward of the after stack, and had a displacement of 2,000 tons. At 1230 hours the destroyer, which was on a westerly course, reversed course, passed north of the target, and again altered its course to southeast. At 1315 the destroyer disappeared while the target remained in sight.
- 25X1A 4. [] a tugboat with three loaded lighters was seen steering approximately 80° true, about seven nautical miles southwest of Porkkala. At 1250 hours, two Soviet M-type minesweepers, [] were sighted near 25X1 berth No. 9 near Porkkala. They came from the direction of Porkkala, disappeared on a southerly course, and were followed at a distance of about two nautical miles by a German-type landing craft which had a small crane on her forward end.

25X1A

SECRET/CONTROL - US OFFICIALS ONLY

SECRET/CONTROL U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

25X1A

-2-

5. Between 0700 hours and 0800 hours, 18 October 1953, a group of three destroyers was sighted between Osmussaar and Hiiumaa. [REDACTED]

25X1

They steered a westerly course at a speed of about 25 knots in line ahead formation, which was altered to a starboard quarter formation when they were [REDACTED]. They were between 250 and 300 meters apart and developed little smoke, proceeding almost without noise. Both these ships had a rather long forecastle, an almost vertical stem, a forward stack which was a little higher than the bridge, an after stack which was only a little lower and thinner than the forward stack, and a three-stage, very long bridge. A gun turret was mounted on the step of the bridge, a single-gun turret on the forecastle, a single-gun turret and a double-barreled antiaircraft gun on the short island-like structure amidships, and another gun turret on the fantail. Several antiaircraft gun positions were located between the stacks and a torpedo launcher was placed abeam the second stack.

25X1

SECRET/CONTROL U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY